

## **Statute - MN**

### **State Agencies:**

Minn. Stat. § 16C.03. Commissioner's authority; powers and duties.

Subd. 10. Cooperative purchasing. The commissioner is authorized to enter into a cooperative purchasing agreement for the provision of goods, services, construction, and utilities in accordance with section 16C.105.

### **Local Governments:**

Minn. Stat. § 471.345. Uniform Municipal Contracting Law

Subd. 15. Cooperative purchasing. (a) Municipalities may contract for the purchase of supplies, materials, or equipment by utilizing contracts that are available through the state's cooperative purchasing venture authorized by section 16C.11. For a contract estimated to exceed \$25,000, a municipality must consider the availability, price and quality of supplies, materials, or equipment available through the state's cooperative purchasing venture before purchasing through another source.

(b) If a municipality does not utilize the state's cooperative purchasing venture, a municipality may contract for the purchase of supplies, materials, or equipment without regard to the competitive bidding requirements of this section if the purchase is through a national municipal association's purchasing alliance or cooperative created by a joint powers agreement that purchases items from more than one source on the basis of competitive bids or competitive quotations.

### **About Sourcewell:**

Sourcewell is a service cooperative created by the Minnesota legislature as a local unit of government. Minn. Const. art. XII, sec. 3. As a public corporation and agency, Sourcewell is governed by local elected municipal officials and school board members. Minn. Stat. § 123A.21 Subd. 4 (2017). Under its enabling statute, Sourcewell is explicitly authorized to provide cooperative purchasing services to eligible members. Id. at Subd. 7(23).

Sourcewell follows the competitive contracting law process to solicit, evaluate and award cooperative purchasing contracts for goods and services. Sourcewell cooperative purchasing contracts are made available through the joint exercise of powers law to member agencies. Minn. Stat. § 471.59 (2017). Membership in Sourcewell is available for all eligible state and local governments, education, higher education and nonprofit entities across North America. § 123A.21 at Subd. 3.

### **Disclaimer:**

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